



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re the Application of: **WAKI, Minoru**

Group Art Unit: 1714

Serial No.: 09/673,194

Examiner: **Callie E. Shosho**

Filed: **October 12, 2000**

**P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 2228**

For. **WATER-BASED PIGMENT DISPERSION, PROCESS FOR PREPARING THE  
SAME AND WATER-BASED INK CONTAINING THE SAME**

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

March 15, 2004

Sir:

This is a Preliminary Amendment for the above-captioned patent application, with March 14, 2004 being a Sunday, filed together with an RCE on March 15, 2004. Please amend the above-captioned patent application as follows: